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1. The village of Grossalbersdorf, Kreis Frankenstein, had a pre World War II Population of about 800, mostly farmers. When the Soviet Army approached in January 1945, some of the population, mostly Nazi activists, fled westward. The rest of the people found their freedom of movement severely restricted (no one was permitted to leave the immediate area without a propusk--pass--issued by the local Kommandatura) but the Soviets did not introduce any permanent changes in the internal life of the village. They would requisition any kind of property they found useful; for example, they either slaughtered or drove away all cattle. 50X1-HUM
2. The village was turned over to Polish administration in September 1945. After that moment, rapid changes took place. Most of the inhabitants were deported across the Oder-Neisse line into East Germany, some with part of their movable belongings, others without any personal effects. Only two small categories were exempt from deportation, Nazis and Communists. some of the Nazi activists had already escaped before the end of World War II. about 30 to 40 individuals were considered as Nazis because of their past activities and placed in special prison camps. About 10 or 15 others expressed themselves favorable to a Communist form of government and were permitted to remain in the village. 50X1-HUM
3. The prison camp to which former Nazis were taken was located about two miles from the village. It was originally built during Nazi times and had housed Polish agricultural workers. Under Polish administration, however, the prisoners were subject to much stricter regimentation. For example, the 50X1-HUM

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Polish inmates of the camp during Nazi times were permitted to eat with the farmers to whom they were assigned and sometimes did not return to the camp for considerable periods of time. Now, the German prisoners received all their meals at the camp and were not permitted any kind of intercourse with the general population.

4. The prison guards were Poles; guard towers were especially constructed and equipped with machine guns. The inmates, all of whom were Germans, were made up not only of 40 to 50 individuals but also of other political undesirables from Upper Silesia and numbered between 350 and 400. the location of other such prison camps in New Poland, the estimate of two to three thousand Germans in such camps is considerably below the actual total.

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5. The ~~ages of the inmates of the Grosslaboratorium camp ranged from early children to about 60.~~ Older people were deported to East Germany. In summertime the prisoners had to work from 6 a m to about 7 p m and sometimes, especially during harvest, even longer. They were driven to the fields in trucks of Soviet manufacture and returned for lunch.

All the land in this area was collectivized, no individual ownership of land.

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6. All the farm machinery available was modern and of Soviet manufacture. It included combines, tractors, and a potato reaping machine this machine dug out potatoes and threw them into a large container. Under the supervision of the Polish prison guards, the captive labor force operated the machines. At one time the motor of a tractor was damaged during work, and the prisoner operating it was charged with sabotage and subsequently disappeared from the camp.

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7.

8. The prisoners were not permitted to talk to the Polish farmers or vice versa. the farmers were not completely without sympathy and not altogether happy in their new homes although they have been allotted the best property available. On a few occasions one of the farmers would speak to a prisoner, apparently with the tacit approval of the guard.

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9. During recent months the treatment of the prisoners at the hands of the Polish guards improved noticeably. There were fewer cases of beatings and some traces of courtesy were in evidence for the first time.

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the question of a revision of the Oder-Neisse line due to Western pressure may have been more seriously considered in East German and Satellite circles than was admitted; in that case, it would have made sense for the Poles to cultivate as much good will as possible on the part of German political prisoners.

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